

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will notify all Members that Members should address the Chair during 1-minutes.

□ 1040

HOUSTON ROCKETS WIN CHAMPIONSHIP IN REMARKABLE PLAYOFF SWEEP OF ORLANDO MAGIC

(Mr. BENTSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, as Gene Petersen, long-time voice of the Houston Rockets is fond of saying, "How Sweet It Is."

Last night the world champion Houston Rockets completed one of the most remarkable playoff runs in NBA history by sweeping the Orlando Magic. Given little respect by the so-called experts after winning their first world championship, the Rockets claimed their second consecutive world championship by rewriting NBA playoff history.

The numerous individual and team records set by the Rockets during this playoff run include: being the first team to beat 4 teams with 50 or more wins on their way to a championship; the Rockets are the first team to claim their second consecutive championship by sweeping their finals opponent; the Rockets were the lowest seeded team to ever win a championship. Some of the individual records set include Kenny Smith's seven three pointers in game one for a single game record, and Robert Horry setting a single game record for steals with seven.

And, what an accomplishment to see the return of the powerful Houston duo Clyde Drexler and Hakeem Olajuwon avenging the 1983 NCAA finals loss.

Of course, what the Rockets accomplished during this playoff run isn't about records. As Rudy "T" declared last night, it's about "the heart of a champion." We could learn a lot from this team, staring elimination in the face five separate times, the Rockets consistently rose to the challenge. As a result, they are again in their rightful place atop the basketball world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICAN ACTION ACT FOLLOWS SUPREME COURT'S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DECISION

(Mr. RADANOVICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the Supreme Court's recent decision regarding racial preferences and quotas.

In a country where everyone asks to be treated equally, this decision moves us closer toward such a reality. As Justice Clarence Thomas stated in his

opinion, "government cannot make us equal; it can only recognize, respect, and protect us as equal before the law."

But the Court's decision does not go far enough. This Congress should work to end all discrimination, including preferences and quotas. In the spirit of equality, I am introducing legislation this week which will promote equality. The American Action Act will ban racial and sexual discrimination against any individual in employment, education, and contracting. The concept of this legislation is simple: All discrimination must end.

THE HOUSTON ROCKETS AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was almost getting ready to put on this hat this morning, but I hope my colleagues will be able to know where I am and where I stand.

Hakeem Olajuwon, Sam Cassell, Kenny Smith, Clyde Drexler, Mario Ellie, Rudy T., Les Alexander, and many, many others who stood before the American people said, "We have heart, we have soul. We have character, and we have perseverance."

Mr. Speaker, my hat is off, and sometimes it is on, to the National Basketball Association champions of 1995, the Houston Rockets.

But let me say something else. I salute the city of Houston, the State of Texas, and, yes, the Houston fans, because it is all about people gathering together, supporting folks who determine to do the right thing and never say die, never say that we cannot do it. That is the American dream. That is what this Congress is all about. That is what the Democratic Party stands for, that we believe in people.

Let me also salute those in the Houston Rockets who have given of themselves to the inner city youngsters in my district, for do my colleagues realize that the Houston Rockets have provided for basketball programs in our city parks and support our city parks by keeping them open late hours so that youngsters will have something to do?

I salute the Houston Rockets. What other team has come from out of the ashes, stood up, and said to America, "Yes, we can"?

Congratulations to the 1995 National Basketball Association champions, the Houston Rockets.

CLINTON'S TOP 10 REASONS FOR PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, from the home office in Scottsdale, AZ, Bill

Clinton's top 10 reasons for proposing a balanced budget:

No. 10, Hillary: Out of town.

No. 9, I did what?

No. 8, time to really tick off GEP-HARDT.

No. 7, sneaking suspicion that Republicans have been right all along.

No. 6, tired of being irrelevant.

No. 5, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

No. 4, only way to get networks to cover him.

No. 3, ploy to get DAVID OBEY to join his fan club.

No. 2, too much McDonald's coffee.

And the No. 1 reason Bill Clinton proposed a balanced budget: Newt envy.

CLINTON BUDGET: TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE, AND TOO EXPENSIVE

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I have yet to hear more than a handful of Democrats praise the President's budget sequel.

I believe 10 years is too long to balance the budget—especially after he promised to do it in 5.

His budget does give future Congresses, like those in the past, more chances to overspend again.

It does give little of the tax relief the House budget does.

And it does add several hundred billion dollars to our overwhelming national debt.

Still, you would think that more of our colleagues on the left would give the President credit for moving toward saving our children's future.

But come to think of it, the President did not do other liberals much of a favor.

He just undercut all the people we have heard cry wolf about Republican budgets.

Mr. Speaker, the Clinton budget sequel is too little, too late—and too expensive.

Still, I am surprised his own party has not given him a little credit for showing a little concern about balancing the budget.

THE FARM FREEDOM ACT

(Mr. POMEROY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, our colleagues, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. ZIMMER] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER], are sponsoring what they call the Farm Freedom Act. It is, to be kind, a very short-sighted proposal that would have a devastating impact, not just on rural America, but on urban America as well.

All of the Members of this House, urban and rural, suburban, have to understand that we are all in this together. Agriculture is our Nation's No. 1 industry. It is larger than Chrysler, Ford, and GM combined.